

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated September 7, 2007, which was made final, and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submitted herewith, claims 2, 7 and 10 have been canceled, and claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-9 and 11-15 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. Drawing Requirement

The Office Action, on page 2, stated that Figures 1 and 2 should be designated with a "Prior Art" legend.

Applicants' attorney respectfully traverses this requirement. Specifically, Applicants' attorney submits that Figures 1 and 2 do not illustrate the prior art. Note that Figure 1 includes an application program 108, and the Sheet Set Manager of the present invention is implemented in the application program 108 (although the Sheet Set Manager may be implemented in the operating system 108). Note also that Figure 2 further illustrates the components of the application program 108 in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention. The application program 108 is not in the prior art, and thus Figures 1 and 2 do not illustrate the prior art. Consequently, Applicants' attorney requests that this requirement be withdrawn.

III. Prior Art Rejections

On pages 2-5 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of the combination of U.S. Patent 6,446,953 (Bonney), U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0078394 (Powell) and U.S. Patent 6,633,674 (Barnes). On pages 5-6 of the Office Action, claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Bonney, Powell, Barnes and U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0088657 (Brown).

Applicants' attorney respectfully traverses these rejections.

Independent claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended to overcome the rejections based on the cited references. Specifically, the independent claims now recite that the Sheet Set Manager includes a Transmittal and Archive function for automatically packaging, communicating and storing of the Sheet Set, Subsets and Sheets, and associated files, as a cohesive unit, such that the Transmittal and

Archive function automatically collects all files related to the Sheet Set, Subsets and Sheets, including finding a first set of files that store the Sheet Set, Subsets and Sheets, finding a second set of files that are required to continue working on the Sheet Set, and packaging together the first and second set of files. (See, e.g., Applicants' specification at page 14.)

The combination of references does not teach or suggest these limitations.

Bonney merely describes hierarchical drawing sheet management. However, as admitted by the Office Action, Bonney does not teach or suggest a Transmittal and Archive function similar to that recited in Applicants' claims. Nonetheless, the Office Action asserts that Powell teaches an electronic envelope that packages, communicates and stores documents electronically. However, as admitted by the Office Action, neither Bonney nor Powell expressly discloses transmittal and archive. Nonetheless, the Office Action asserts that Barnes teaches picture archiving and communication.

Applicants' attorney disagrees, in view of the amendments set forth above, and the arguments set forth below. Applicants' attorney submits that the combination of references do not teach or suggest a Transmittal and Archive function as recited in Applicants' independent claims.

For example, the electronic envelope of Powell requires that the user generate, select or identify all of the documents that are to be collected within the envelope. However, nothing in Powell suggests that a function of the system may automatically collect the documents. Moreover, the electronic envelope of Powell does not store the same type of files as recited in Applicants' claims, namely files related to the Sheet Set, Subsets and Sheets. Instead, the electronic envelope of Powell includes Type A documents (i.e., any document), X1 document (information for automating the processing of the Type A document by the recipient), digital signatures, public certificates, and X2 documents (control data for the envelope).

In another example, Barnes merely describes the use of image compression in archiving pictures. However, nothing in Barnes suggests that a function of the system may automatically collect the documents. Moreover, the archiving of Barnes does not involve the same type of files as recited in Applicants' claims, namely files related to the Sheet Set, Subsets and Sheets. Instead, the archiving of Barnes relates to the compression of images created in a medical environment.

In yet another example, Brown merely describes the use of virtual font files, which may be referenced by a CAD drawing. However, nothing in Brown suggests that a function of the system may automatically collect the fonts with the drawings for transmittal and archive. Specifically, nothing in Brown refers to a function that automatically collects all files related to Sheet Sets,

Subsets and Sheets, including finding files that store the Sheet Sets, Subsets and Sheets, finding files that are required to continue working on the Sheet Set, and packaging together the found files as part of a Transmittal and Archive function that automatically packages, communicates and stores of the Sheet Sets, Subsets and Sheets, and associated files, as a cohesive unit.

Consequently, the combination of references does not teach or suggest all the limitations of Applicants' independent claims. Moreover, the various elements of Applicants' claimed invention together provide operational advantages over Bonney, Powell, Barnes and Brown. In addition, Applicants' invention solves problems not recognized by Bonney, Powell, Barnes and Brown.

Thus, Applicants' attorney submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are allowable over Bonney, Powell, Barnes and Brown. Further, dependent claims 3-5, 8-9 and 12-15 are submitted to be allowable over Bonney, Powell, Barnes and Brown in the same manner, because they are dependent on independent claims 1, 6 and 11, respectively, and thus contain all the limitations of the independent claims. In addition, dependent claims 3-5, 8-9 and 12-15 recite additional novel elements not shown by Bonney, Powell, Barnes and Brown.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

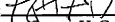
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